

SESSIONS OVERVIEW

TUESDAY, MARCH 3		Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex			
7:30 -	Conference Registration				
	CONFERENCE ROOM	NORTH HALL	SOUTH HALL	CLASSROOM B-C	CLASSROOM A
8:45 - 9:45	FOOD SAFETY Updates from the ISDA Don Lamb, Indiana State Department of Agriculture	BUSINESS Cultivating Opportunity: Indiana Grown Program Advantages Caroline Patrick	FRUIT Grower Panel on High-Density Tree Fruit Brent Arnoldussen Calvin Beasley Thomas Roney Stuart Brenneman	VEGETABLES An Update of Cucurbit Diseases: Gummy Stem Blight, Anthracnose, Phytophthora, and Cucurbit Yellow Vine Disease (PARP credit) César Escalante, 8:45 - 9:15 Understanding What Shapes Cantaloupe Shelf Life Wenjing Guan, 9:15 - 9:45	RESILIENT AG Beyond Cereal Rye: Exploring Winter-Hardy Legumes Potential for Resilient Soils Adebukola Dada, SARE* Awardee
9:45 - 10:00	Break (Room Transitions)				
10:00 - 11:00	FOOD SAFETY Food Safety Considerations for Value-Added Products and Byproducts Usage Perry Kirkham Hansel Mina Brenda Hash	BUSINESS Estate Planning and Asset Protection for Farmers Michelle Adler	FRUIT Apple Leaf Blotch and Emerging Diseases in Apples in the Midwestern and Mid-Atlantic U.S. (PARP credit) Melanie Lewis Ivey, 10:00 - 10:30 Dogwood Borer: A Re-emerging Pest in Apple Production Elizabeth Long, 10:30 - 11:00	VEGETABLES Addressing Root-Knot Nematode Challenges in High Tunnel Tomato Production Lei Zhang Wenjing Guan, 10:00 - 10:30 Entomopathogenic Nematodes for Sustainable Pest Management in Specialty Crops (PARP credit) Julia Wooby, 10:30 - 11:00	RESILIENT AG Planting Pollinator Habitat to Maximize Crop Pollination Services Ella Stroh
11:00 - Noon	Trade Show Break, PARP Regulatory Topic - Classroom B-C (30 minutes, required to receive PARP credit) Soil Health Demonstration - Cider Tastings - Exhibit Hall				
12:00 - 1:15	Luncheon - North and South Halls				
1:15 - 2:15	Farmer Panel, <i>Helping Others Learn From Our Mistakes</i> - North and South Halls				
2:15 - 2:30	Break				
2:30-3:20	FLOWERS How FlowersInSeason.com Can Help Cut Flower Growers Market and Sell Flowers Michelle Wallace Marc Amante SARE* Awardees	BUSINESS Building Your Food Product and Business Patrick Nycz	FRUIT Berry Bad News: Tackling Botrytis in Strawberries Before It Takes Hold (PARP credit) Melanie Lewis Ivey	LABOR A Legal Workforce: What's New with H-2A and How It Can Work for Your Farm Sarah Black	RESILIENT AG Addressing Knowledge Gaps in Animal Traction Moriah Bilenky David Schamber Jennifer Thomas SARE* Awardees
3:20 - 3:30	Break (Room Transitions)				
3:30 - 4:20	FLOWERS From Soil to Stem: Resource Management and Season Extension Strategies for Cut Flowers (Virtual presentation) Melanie Stock	BUSINESS Risk and Insurance Discussion for Farmers Markets, Agritourism and Small Farms John Nagle	FRUIT Principles and Tools for Apple Cropload Management Brent Arnoldussen	VEGETABLES Unexpected Insect Damage: How to Scout, Identify, and Manage (PARP credit) Laura Ingwell	RESILIENT AG Building Better Beds: Using No-Till Systems to Reduce Weeds, Improve Soil Health, and Hold More Water (PARP credit) Megan Ayers Ryan Lee
9:00 - 4:00	Two Quiet Rooms Available				
4:30 - 5:30	Bin Washer Demonstration, Cider Contest, PARP Check Out - Expo Hall				

*SARE - Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Grant Awardee

SESSIONS OVERVIEW

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4		Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex			
7:30 -	Conference Registration				
	CONFERENCE ROOM	NORTH HALL	SOUTH HALL	CLASSROOM B-C	CLASSROOM A
8:45 - 9:45	LABOR Things to Consider When Adding Farm Labor to Your Farm Lais McCartney Beth Vansickle Rebecca Koetz	BUSINESS Marketing Strategies: Telling Your Story in an Authentic Way Lise Krueer	LIVESTOCK "Have To's" to Ruminant Livestock Nutrition Nick Minton	URBAN AG Quail in the City: Tiny Livestock, Big Potential Jayde Grisham	NICHE OPPORTUNITIES Hot Opportunities: Cultivating a Midwest Craft Hot Sauce Movement Petrus Langenhoven Alexandria Snabes
9:45 - 10:00	Break (Room Transitions)				
10:00 - 11:00	VEGETABLES A Year in the Life of a High Tunnel: Going Beyond Tomatoes Chris Adair Dan Perkins	BUSINESS Identifying and Exploring New Markets Alexis Sheffield	LIVESTOCK Viability in Targeted Grazing for Small Scale Farmers Sabrina Friend Sylvester Friend SARE* Awardee	URBAN AG Growing Dual-Use Plants Amanda Bradshaw Burks	NICHE OPPORTUNITIES Niche Crop Production & Marketing: Broomcorn & Willow Brian Geier Elizabeth Tobey
11:00 - Noon	Trade Show Break, Bright Ideas Forum sponsored by SARE - Conference Room Quail Demonstration - Exhibit Hall				
12:00 - 1:15	Luncheon - North and South Halls				
1:15 - 2:15	KEYNOTE SESSION - North and South Halls The Power of Local Foods - Marty Travis, Spence Farm				
2:15 - 2:30	Break				
2:30 - 3:20	VEGETABLES High Tunnel Sweet Pepper Production Strategies and Variety Selection Petrus Langenhoven	BUSINESS Farm Business Plan Mad Libs Liz Brownlee	FRUIT Maximizing Yield with High Tunnel Table Grapes Miranda Purcell 2:30 - 3:00 2025 Monitoring Updates: Spotted-wing Drosophila and Their Parasitoids Elizabeth Long, 3:10 - 3:40	FLOWERS Woodies for Cut Flower Production Alexis Sheffield	FOOD SAFETY Food Safety Basics for Produce Growers Amanda Deering Scott Monroe Tari Gary Katheryn Parraga
3:20 - 3:30	Break (Room Transitions)				
3:30 - 4:20	VEGETABLES Returns on Investment : A Year in the Life of a AZS Rinse Conveyor Washer on an Organic Farm Dan Perkins	BUSINESS Understanding What Your Wholesale Buyer Wants Lali Hess Adam Steckler Anna Holloway	FRUIT Soil vs. Soilless Strawberry Production Wenjing Guan 3:50 - 4:20	FLOWERS Blooms & Business: Growers' Panel on Cut Flower Success Irene Torres Elizabeth Tobey Kailee Bennett	FOOD SAFETY Food Safety Basics for Produce Growers Amanda Deering Scott Monroe Tari Gary Katheryn Parraga
9:00 - 4:00	Two Quiet Rooms Available				
4:30 - 6:00	Evening Social - Reception + Food, Poster Session (4:30-5:30) Bin Washer Demonstration - Expo Hall Book Signing - "My Farmer, My Customer" by Marty Travis (book for sale, cash or check ONLY)				

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SESSIONS OVERVIEW

THURSDAY, MARCH 5		Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex			
7:30 -	Conference Registration				
	CONFERENCE ROOM	NORTH HALL	SOUTH HALL	CLASSROOM B-C	CLASSROOM A
8:45 - 9:45	URBAN AG Beginner's Grant Writing and Management Basics Kayla Wright	BUSINESS Farmers Markets: Tips and Tricks for Vendors James Wolff	RESILIENT AG Indiana Organic Network: Updates on the Statewide Soil Health Census Yichao Rui Pavani Ganju	LIVESTOCK Ask the Egg-spert: Small Flock Questions Answered by a Poultry Scientist Sara Cloft	FLOWERS Floral Designing: Tips on Creating Profit Making Petal Brenda Lekse
9:45 - 10:00	Break (Room Transitions)				
10:00 - 11:00	URBAN AG Permaculture 101 Rebecca Koetz	BUSINESS The Business of Regional Food Systems: Value Chains, Hubs, Services, and Buyer Interest Rachel Brandenburg	RESILIENT AG Optimizing Compost Use for Soil Health and Regenerative Agriculture Gowri Somasundaram Jason Gearheart Brooke Alford	LIVESTOCK Into the Fold, Getting Started with Small Ruminants Cora Reinbolt	FLOWERS From Field to Vase: Marketing Fresh Blooms Denise Smith
11:00 - Noon	Trade Show Break, Black Soldier Fly Demonstration - Exhibit Hall				
12:00 - 2:15	Networking Luncheon - North and South Halls				
2:15 - 2:30	Break				
2:30 - 3:20	URBAN AG Farm Stress and the Urban Farm Community Adam Tyler	BUSINESS Grow & Know: Specialty Crop Record Keeping Basics Jenna Nees Dennis Buckmaster	VEGETABLES Extension Listening Session Extension Educators and Specialists	LIVESTOCK Lessons Learned from a Two Year Integrated Crop Livestock Systems Study Moriah Bilenky	NICHE OPPORTUNITIES Discover the Emerging Mushroom Industry Roger Winstead Mary Winstead
3:20 - 3:30	Break (Room Transitions)				
3:30 - 4:20	URBAN AG Don't Make My Mistake, Urban Edition Dan Garcia Scott Rice Tyler Gough	BUSINESS Making Sense of Social Media Opportunities for Small Businesses Andrea Hatfield	VEGETABLES Active Learning Session on Postharvest Dehydration: Food Safety and Beyond 2.0 Betty Feng	LIVESTOCK Exploring Wool Pellet and Mulch Applications in Specialty Crop Production Whitney Schlegel Wenjing Guan	NICHE OPPORTUNITIES The 5 W's of Agrivoltaics Alan Bailey
9:00 - 4:00	Two Quiet Rooms Available				

